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- Merz, John Theodore. A Fragment on the Human Mind. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. 1920. Pp. xiv + 309. \$4.50.
- Owen, Dorothy Tudor. The Child Vision: Being a Study in Mental Development and Expression. Manchester, Eng.: University Press. New York: Longmans, Green & Co. 1920. Pp. xvi + 180. \$2.50.
- Pratt, James Bissett. The Religious Consciousness: A Psychological Study. New York: The Macmillan Co. 1920. Pp. viii + 488.

NOTES AND NEWS

A MEETING of the Aristotelian Society was held on June 21st, Mr. A. F. Shand in the chair. A paper was read by Miss Edgell on Memory and Conation. The view of three writers approaching the subject from the differing standpoints of philosophical psychology, biology and psychiatry, *viz.*, Professor Ward, Dr. Semon and Dr. Freud were examined with reference to the question: Does memory require the recognition in mental life of a specific function, conation? Analysis shows that for Professor Ward the activity of the subject of experience is essential both for the development of memory and for many of its manifestations. If activity of subject be understood as implying conation, then the author's theory of memory does involve conation. Dr. Semon, following Hering and Butler, regards memory as a function of all organic matter and its laws as laws of organic life. Nevertheless in dealing with human memory Semon recognizes "vividness" in imagery as essential for memory and association. Vividness is distinguished from intensity and made to depend on attention. The relation of attention to the laws of organic life is still obscure, and attention is treated as if it were an original force. The rôle of conation in the psychology of Dr. Freud is all important. It is the conation of unconscious wish which is regarded as explanatory, if not of the fact of memory itself, at least of many of the phenomena of remembering and forgetting in every-day life.

W. NESTLE has undertaken to bring out a new edition of the monumental work of Zeller, *Die Philosophie der Griechen*. The first volume has already appeared.

THERE is also to be published shortly the eleventh edition of the first volume of Ueberweg's *Grundriss*. Dr. Karl Praechter, who revised the preceding edition, published in 1909, has added to it considerably in the present volume.